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# TAZEWELL C. H., VA., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1887.

The Tragedy of " Virginius." [

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June 11, 17

Sunbeams.

A sound sleeper-One who snores. A horse frequently wins a race on the

Money lenders take more interest in usiness than may other class of men. Vasear girls are said to be so modest that they will not work on improper fractions

"Grover, dear, will you always prove kind husband to me?" "Yes, Frankie; so a kind father."

"I aim to tell the truth." "Yes," in-terrupt d an acquaintance, "but you are a very bad shot."

Mr. Cleveland doesn't know how to play second fiddle, but he handles the git-thar with unanimous success. Committeeman—"What animal is the most capable of attaching itself to a man?" Hoad of the class—"The leech, sir."

Husband—"That fonce wants painting badly, I think I'll do it myself," Wife—"Yes, do it yourself if you think it wants to be done badly.

Speak of a man's marble brow, and he will glow with conscious pride; but allude to his wooden head, and he's mad in a minute.

It is about time for somebody among the back seats to rise up and remark that the mosquito bar, like the campaign lie, is mude out of hole cloth.

"Ah," said Jehokus, taking his friend's baby, "he has got his mother's eyes— and my hair," he added, as the infant prodigy grabbed him by the foretop. "My dear," he said, "what is the difference between frammas and ingenums? The difference between u and i. my love," she replied, and he scratched his head for a diagram.

"I am coming by and by, you will hear my plantive dry, in accents mild and gentle as it lamb. I'm not coming on a frolic, but to give small boys the colic, sing key! the small green apple that lam.

"How is this, son-in-law; you went to the ball last night and here it is scarcely two nonths since you lost your wife?" "I acknowledge it my dear mamma; but then, you know, I dance so sadly."

Old Strictum—"See here what makes you so late this morning?" Office boy— "I had to get my hair cut." Strictum— "Well, you could have sent some one else to attend to that. Don't let it co-duragin.

Fond mother (to backelor uncle)—
"Why, John, don's lot the baby play
with that gold tooth-pick. He'll swallow it." Badhelor ancle—"Oh, that won't
do any harm. I have a string tied to it,
so I can't lose it. A St. Louis dealer advertises: "I am

selling fine c-rk-crows in men's pauts \$5." Unless there is a loaded flask in the hip pocket the inducement of a fine corkscrow in the pauts will not capture many purcha-crs. Estern young lady to Western young man—"We were disappointed in not getting cards to your sister's wedding. Mr. Breeze. Words there no cards?" "Well—er, sister dain't play any, but some of us had a little two dollar game after the minister got away."

Hostess (Smuday morning in Washing-ton)—"Is the e any particular minister you would like to hear preach, Pene-lope?" I reactore (visiting from Boston) —"Wall, if you don't mind, auntic, I think I would jike to hear one of the foreign manusters. I am quite proficient in languages, you know."

Customer—'I say, Mr. Barber, I don't heft your sensors at work on my hair." Barber—'There is very little hair on your head." Customer—'makes no difference. I pay you money and I want you to rattle the sensors on the bald place just the same as if it had hair on it."

on it."

An express train stopped at Pittsfield a few days ago to let a passenger get off for a minute to kiss his wife, who happened to be in that town. As long as no train is permitted to stop in order to let a man kiss another fellow's wife, surely no fault can be found with a rai road's minugement for this sort of thing.

A icalous Newsont

thing.

A jealous Newport woman a few nights ago went through the pockets of her husband while he was in bed asteep, expecting to find a love letter from another woman; but, instead, finding au old pocket-knife, a dime, two nails and a dun for house rent, she went back to bed and imprinted a kiss on his caimly sleeping forehead.

A Scotch elergyman remarked to one of his flock that he heard he was about to be mar ied for the third time. The reverend gen leman added: "They say, John, your getting money with her. You did so on the last two occasions. You'll get quite rich by the wives," "Deed, sir," quietly respondered John, "what wi bringur them in and puttin' them out there's nae muckle made o' them sir."

At a dinner party last winter the cool weather had done considerable duty in supplying conversation, when a plump, happy looking married hady made a remark about cold feet. "Surely," said a lady apposite. "Mrs.—, you are not troubled with cold feet?" Amid an awful pause she naively answered; "Yes, indeed, I am very much troubled—but, then, they are not my own." Her husband blushed scarlet.

A wag who is often merry over his personal plainue a tells this story of himself: "I went to a chemist the other day for a dose of morphine for a sick friend. The assistant objected to give it to me without a prescription, evidently fearing that I intended to commit suicide. 'Pshaw!' said I, 'do I look like a man who would kill himself?' Gazing steadily at me for a moment he replied: 'I dout know. It seems to me if I looked like you I should be greatly tempted to kill myself.'"

Talking about his, may who leave.

greatly tempted to kill myself."

Talking about bitsy men who leave their hones early and get back after dark and never see their children, a men of that sort was hurrying along one morning when he found that his little boy had got up before him and was playing on the sidewalk. He told the child to go in. Child world't. Pa spanked him and went to business. Guid went in howling. The mother said: "What's the matter?" "Man hit me, blubbered the youngster, "What man!" "That man had stays here on Sundays."

On May 17th, 1820, "Virginius" was produced for the first time. Great

expectations concerning its merits were entertained by the town, and a crowded entertained by the town, and a crowded house gathered to witness the performance. And in the pit sat Sheridan Knowles, by turns radiant with hope and dejected by fear. The first act fell flat on an audience filled with high anticipations; even the second act failed to effect the house wire ideal. to effect the house, principally because Charles Kemble, who suffered from a cold, could scarce be heard; but, suddenly regaining his voice, in the third act he aroused interest and gained applause. Macready, inspired by enthuthe character of Virginius, to quote the Times of the following morning, "he touched the passions with a more masterly hand, and evinced deeper pathos than on any former occasion." Interest now deepened to enthusiasm; cheers greeted the conclusion of every act; sobs and exclamations attende the great catastrophe where Virginius stabs his daughter, and the curtain fell on a house excited by terror and delight. The tragedy took the town by storm "Peals of approbation," says the Euro-pean Magazine, "attended the an-nouncement of this successful tragedy." It was played for fourteen nights, and was received with unabated interest. Knowles was advised to have it printed immediately, that he might reap remu-neration from its sale. To aid him in this respect Macready called on his friend John Murray, and requested that he would publish "Virginius." Mr. Murray promised he would give to his consideration, but acting on the advice of his reader, the Rev. II. Milman, afterwards Dean of St. Paul's, he re-

turned the manuscript in a few days with thanks. Knowles then offered it what thanks. Knowles then offered it to Ridgway, of Piccadilly, who at once accepted it, and in the course of a couple of months it passed luto several editions. It was dedicated to Macready in the form of a letter which ran follows: "My Dear Sir: What can I do less than dedicate this tragedy to you? This is a question you cannot answer, but I can. I cannot do less, and if I could do more I ought and would. I was a perfect stranger to you you read my play and at once committed ourself respecting its merits. This perhaps is not saying much for your head but it says a great deal for your heart, and that is the consideration which above all others makes me feel happy and proud

in subscribing myself your greatful friend and servant, James Sheridan

Salaries of Congressmen. The salary of a member ceases on the day of his death. The salary of the successor commences the day after the decease of the former member, though the election may not occur for several months. The new member in other words, draws pay for time he never served. A member is allowed twenty cents mileage each way, or forty cents a mile one way, and he can check for the full amount of both trips when he takes his seat. He is allowed one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year for stationery. The members draw their money in different ways. Some always overdraw, or, rather, bor-row from the head of the bank. They borrow, or get in advance, sums rang and at the end of the month they have nothing. The great majority of the members draw all that is coming to them at the end of each month, particularly those who have their families with them. Some of them never see an outside bank, but let their monthly salary remain and draw it out in small Others take out their salaries and place them in other banks. But this is not done as much as formerly. Most of the members do all their financounter of the Congressional Bank, and some of them pile checks up as high as sixty thou-

sand dollars in a single season. The Bell of Justice. It is a beautiful story that in one of the old cities of Italy the king caused a bell to be hung in a tower in one of the public squares, and called it "the bell of justice," and commanded that any one who had been wronged should go and ring the bell, and so call the magistrate of the city, and ask and receive justice. And when, in the course of time, the lower end of the bell-rope rotted away, a wild vine was tied to it to lengthen it; and one day an old and by its owner, and turned out fo die, wandered into the tower and, in trying to eat the vine, rang the bell. And the magistrate of the city, coming to see who rang the bell, found this old and starving horse; and he caused the owner of the horse in where in of the horse, in whose service he had toiled and been worn out, to be summoned before him, and decreed that as his poor horse had rung the bell of jus-tice he should have justice, and that during the remainder of the horse's life his owner should provide for him proper food and drink and stable, Not since the reign of Henry VIII.

has there been a confirmation held in Lundy Island until the other day when the Bishop of Exeter confirmed four candidates, One of them who bore the suggestive name of "Violet Heaven" is a relative of the proprietor Heaven " is a of the island.

Cheating in Gens. . . .

of getting up false stones has been described by Jerome Cardan, who has published in detail the method of the inventor, one Zocolino. This person's way of working was to procure a thin a clerk behind the counter:

"Do you have all kinds of mountage. way of working was to procure a thin thake of a very inferior and cheap example of the stone he desired to "improve," choosing those which had little color, and might in consequence be procured at a nominal price. As a bottom for his "make-up" he took a bit of crystal which he had shaped to his purpose; covering this with a transpare glue with which he had mixed necessary coloring material, so as to be like the finest specimen of the gem he intended to forge, he carefully fixed on the flake of stone, and concealed the joining of the two so deftly by careful setting as to make purchasers fancy that his gems were not only genuine, but really finer than those of other jewelers. For a time Zocolino flourished, and was enabled by means of his cunning workmanship to deceive the cleverest lapidaries; but detection came at last, and put an end to his fraudulent practices in gem making. It may be mentioned as a warning to travelers that the Singhalese at Colombo are experts in such frauds, and frequently persuade persons to purchase eleverly set up doublets, or pieces of rock crys-tal cut and polished. Doublets in many cases, especially when both parts are really diamonds, are somewhat difficult to detect, even by men who have had great experience in the gem and jewel trades. Often when these gems jewel trades. Often when these tems have been set in a cluster, it has beat found on examination that at least one of the stones is made of paste, or is perhaps a doublet. A rather curious story went the rounds of the press some years ago, when, on the death of a lady of title, it was found that more than one-third of the family diamonds were composed of false stones. These imita-tions had been so beautifully executed that none but the eleverest dealers were able to detect them, while in the care of some of the stones it was not till their specific gravity had been tested that a decision could be arrived at. It has been found on examination, we believe, that necklaces of so-called real diamonds have often contained 20 per cent of doublets or other stones of questionable quality. Respectable dealers in jewelry maintain that it is the public who are to blame for the production of false jewels, knowing well enough that genuine gems coni. not be given at the prices offered for them. Retail jewelers are not seldon. deceived themselves, not being, perhaps. so well versed in the technical knowl-edge incidental to their trade as they ought to be. Tradesnien of repute, however, are exceedingly careful in

their selection of stock, no gem being offered for sale unless it is known to be The Origin of the Postage Stamp, Quite an interesting and enrious story is connected with the origin of the postage stamp. One day a girl came forth from an inn located in the northern part of England, and received from a postman a letter which she turned over in her hand as she asked the price of the postage. The man asked a shilling, a sum too large for one poor as herself to pay, and so she returned the letter to the postman with sadness, although she knew that her brother had sent it. But a sympathic traveller, named Rowland Hill, stood himself, although

near, and at this moment interposed and insisted on paying the shilling the girl seemed is doing so. When strongly averse to his doing so. the postman had departed, the kindhearted Mr. Hill was surprised to find the envelope, the girl explained to him, contained no written communication, but on its outside were certain marks agreed upon by herself and brother, from which as she held the letter in her hands, she gathered all the information she desired. "We are so poor," she continued, "that we invented this mode of correspondence without paying for our letters. Such duplicity set Mr. Hill thinking that a postal system which incited people to commit petty fraud must be very defective. He argued that if the price of postage was lowered from an exorbitant rate to one that came easily within the means of the mass of the people, so many more letters would pass through the mails that the financial condition of the treasury would not be impaired. while society would derive much ad-ditional benefit. He became so much interested in the matter that he managed to bring his views to the notice of the British government, which gave them a favorable reception, and on January 10, 1810, which may be con-sidered the birthday of the postage stamp, letters began to be circulated in every part of the United Kingdom at every part of the United Kingdom at the postage rate of only a penny. Row-land Hill became secretary to the post-master general, and during the next ten years so great a change had taken place that in 1850 the number of letters sent through the mails was 7,239,962 against 1,500,000 in 1810.

One great reason why the work of reformation goes on so slowly is because we all of us begin on our neighbors, and never reach ourselves.

The invention of what are called woman in black, with a mourning veil "doublets" in diamond dealing can be —not too mourning, just about mournaced back for centuries. One mode ing enough—so draped as to salvantage.

" Do you have all kinds of mourtaing cards?"

"Yes'm; we have the cards, and can

get them engraved for you."
"Oh, I don't want the kind they get engraved—I want playing eards, you know. " Mourn'ne playing cards!"

"Way, yes, do" you think they would be roul nice and many?"

The clerk was obliged to confess that the trade badn't yet reached the point of supplying playing cards with mourning borders for bereaved lovers of whist and draw poker, and the lady left the store visibly disappointed.

"I am very sorry I did not get ac-quainted with you until I had become

Matrimonial Item.

a widower," said Col. Percy Yerger to his second wife, with whom he does not live very happily."
"What do you mean by that," asked the partner of his joya.

"Nothing, except that I would much rather that you had been my first wife," replied the foud husband, carelessly.

"Why do you wish that I had been

Why do you wish that I had been your frest wife?" Because some other woman would

be my present wife, darling, Ma to Teke it air The has to Frac it in the friends if r was telling some of his govern the smoking-car how he was ment contractor during the on one occasion he worked in nousand pairs of shoes with

s that jist before Second Bull ueried a farmer-looking man on a hear by
"I he it was."

The fall pulled off an old shoe
and exhibit Thin as big as his

"I got a pair of shoes," he said, as he stood up, "and they made this bunion and lamed me up so that I was cap tured and spent six months in Ander sonville. Stranger, prepare to git the darnedest licking on the earth,"

The liar had to admit that he was only sixteen years old when the war closed and to furnish the bunion man with a cigar.

What They Were.

A hostess who cannot preserve her serenity upon even the most crucial occasions is lacking in one of the most essential qualities of an entertainer. The thoughtless spilling of her best wine, the soiling of her whitest table cloth, may, even the smashing of a whole trayful of her best old family china, should not cause one muscle o

ner countenance to change,
On the other hand, an affected ignorance respecting the contents of the day's bill of fare is at times almost as fatal as the opposite extreme. I was myself present at a dinner party at which one of the untutored stablehelpers was brought in on an emergency, to assist.
"What are these, John?" inquired

the languisd hostess, as John tremb-lingly trust forward a dish of tartiets just under her right elbow.
"I don't know ma'am, really," he re-

plied, "but I think they're a penny a Man's Unseifishness. He-Well, wife, it looks as though the steamer was about to sink, and there are no life-preservers.

She-Oh, Harry, what shall we do? She-Oh, Harry, what shall we do?

He-I have thought. Babies, I have heard, will not sink. II the worst comes I'll throw little Robbie in and you eatch hold of him."

She-What will become of you? He—Oh, never mind me. I'll arrang o got a door or two. That'll keep m

A Smart Young Man. "College man, Eh?" said old Gran "Yes, sir," young Mr. Slim meelly

admitted.

"Thought so," growled the old Graduated, I reckon? "Yes," young Slim confessed.
"Now," said the old man, " what did

you learn when you graduated? Come, speak up if you want the place." "Nothing," said young Silm still nore meekly; "nothing at all." "Thought so," roared the old man in

riumph; "just what I thought." "You see," added young Mr. Slim, in a voice that Moses might have envied, 'we don't learn anything when we graduate; we have to learn it all be-

Young Mr. Slim deserved the situa-ion, but he didn't get it, all the same. He Didn't Blame Them

The new baby had proved itself the possessor of extraordinary vocal powers, and had exercised them much to ohnny's annoyance.
One day he said to his mother:
"Ma,little brother came from heaven,

didn't he y" " Yes, dear." "Say, ma."
"What is it, Johnpy?"
"I don't blame the angels for bouncing him, do you?"

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Enst Indlan Bazance. A traveler gives a pre description of the graceful egg day which was performed for his amujent in the performed for his amujent in the Court of Bhopai, India. shows that our sword-danieers and oroung ladies of the ballet are not do up to the standard of the Bhopairi. He tells that a slender girl, arral in an embroidered bodice and all skilrts like those worn by the peast women in this part of India, camorward very fascinatingly to him the wreathed smiles and dainty ath, and also in smiles and dainty st. and also in steps that were very ectly modeled. "She seemed to me as she wanted me to buy her bask it offg; along with herself, and that theggs were real eggs. She did not uee on them, however. She wored her head a large wheel of wicker rk, and around large wheel of wickerftk, and around this, at equal distars, were placed threads with slip-kips at the ends, in each knot a glasbead to keep it from closing. The mic begins. It is a quick, jerking yvement, rather monotonous, and to dancer spinz around in time with fe measure, which grows faster and faper. As she turns she seleca an errof from the basket, grows faster and faer. As she turns she seizes an eggfrom the basket, which is held on her left arm and rapidly inserts it one of the knots. Her eircular motio causes the threads te stretch out like the spokes of a whoel. She keep on doing this till every knot has it egg and her head is surrounded by a set of aureole. When she has succeeded in placing all the eggs she spins grand so fast that her eggs she spins around so fast that her features can havily be seen. A falso step and Humpty Dumpty would have

or dance to execute, for the dance is not done pervices. Its thread it laid safely back in the empty ba 62. One by one the Indian girl accol pines this, never crushing girl accol pines this, never crushing a shell or leplacing a single egg. When all are record she stops her dizzy whirl, curtes with grace and offers her basket; the lookers-on who often break the egs to prove that no juggl-er's trick is been used to change thom.

had a fall indeed. She has now the most dainty and most difficult part of

Singula Cure for Neuralgia. The following story is told as coming

The following story is told as coming from Sciate Gorman himself, and giving all knowledge in recurring a cure for negative. For many years he has been sufferer from regular attaces of negative. On some occasions he has been confined to his home a day or twice intense was the pain. An old by friend once called upon him while how as suffering from one of his autolis. She displayed so much sympath that she simost forgot to mane threquest she had to make—but she did lot. Upon learning that the Senntorwas troubled with neuroigns. sale didloc. Conferential that the Senatorwas troubled with neuralgia-she voluteered to give him an infalli-ble rendy, provided he would promise not to augh at her or accase her of being (believer in conjurations, spells, etc. the Senator, in a good-natured way inormed her that he was under way normed her that he was under treatent from an eminent physician, who snetimes afforded him temporary relief The old lady finally prevailed upon he Senator to give her remedy a fair trial, whereupon she suggested thathe should get an ordinary nutmeg, thathe should get an ordinary nutmeg, suchas is used in cooking, drill a hole threigh it, attach it to a piece of string, or bbon and wear it around his neck dinually. The Senator, while suffer-one day, determined to give the timeg remedy a trial. He followed b old lady's directions, and in a few ours felt greatly relieved. He has ossesses certain virtues which may

### ave effect on neuralgic pains. Women as Legislators.

Women on an average have little

use of justice, and hardly any sense whatever of awarding to others a themselves. The course of all modern legislation is its tendency to make bytrenching unjustifiably on the personal liberty of the individual. If women were admitted to political power these and incessantly. Such meddling legislation as the Sunday closing act in England, and the Maine liquor laws in the United States would be the joy and aim of the mass of female voters. Women cannot understand that you can make no nation virtuous by act of can make no nation virtuous by act of parliament; they would construct their acts of parliament on purpose to make people virtuous whether they choose or not, and would not see that this would be a form of tyranny as bad as any other. \* \* The average man is not an intellectual nor a nuble being; neither is the average woman. But there are certain solid qualities in the male creature which are lacking from the female; such qualities as toleration and calmness in judgment, which are of infinite value, and in which the female character is almost invariably deficient; a lack in her which makes the prophecy of Dumas that she will one day fill judicial and forensic duties a most alarming prospect, as alarming as the prediction of Goldwin Smith that the negro population will event-ually outnumber and extinguish the Aryan race in the United States.

The great thing in labor is not so much what one is doing as how he is doing it, and why. One may gain, in the end, in self-culture, so much by brick-making as by book-making.